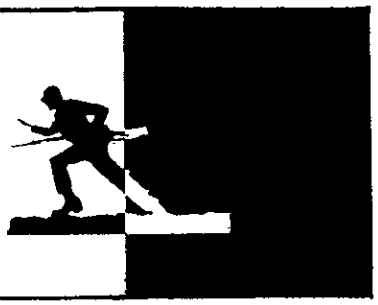
INFANTRY NEWS



MISSION TRAINING Plans (MTPs) represent a departure from past Infantry School Army Training and Evaluation Program (ARTEP) products. The common elements of all types of infantry have been identified and consolidated into a single source document for each echelon. Units throughout the Army will therefore have a common standard to apply to all mounted and dismounted operations. This standardization effort will reduce confusion, redundancy, and waste in our training literature programs.

The standards in the MTPs are observable, measurable, and quantifiable, and they apply to each task. These standards, in many cases very rigorous, are vital to productive training that is focused on success in combat.

Detailed standards for an opposing force (OPFOR) have been added to each operation to provide for more effective force-on-force training. Complementary standards create an environment that allows greater freeplay and a situation in which either force can win.

The status of the various MTPs is as follows:

Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad, ARTEP 7-8-MTP. Addresses mechanized (M2 and M113), motorized, regular, light, airborne, air assault, and Ranger platoons and squads. Has been distributed.

Infantry Rifle Company, ARTEP 7-10-MTP. Addresses regular, light, airborne, air assault, and Ranger companies. Has been distributed.

Infantry Battalion, ARTEP 7-20-MTP. Addresses regular, light, airborne, air assault, and Ranger battalions. Has been distributed.

Infantry Brigade, ARTEP 7-30-MTP. Addresses regular, light, airborne, and air assault brigade, and Ranger Regiment command groups and staffs. Has been distributed.

Tank and Mechanized Infantry Company and Company Team, ARTEP 71-1-MTP. Addresses M2, M113, and tank companies and tank/mechanized infantry teams. (U.S. Army Armor School lead, U.S. Army Infantry School co-proponent.) Has been distributed.

Tank and Mechanized Infantry Battalion Task Force, ARTEP 71-2-MTP. Addresses M2, M113, and tank battalions and tank/mechanized infantry task force. (Infantry School lead, Armor School co-proponent.) Has been distributed.

Mortar Platoon, ARTEP 7-90-MTP. Addresses 60mm, 80mm, I81, and 107mm mortar platoons and squads. Final draft approved for DA printing.

Antiarmor Company and Platoon, ARTEP 7-91-MTP. Addresses improved TOW vehicle (ITV) and High Mobility Multiple Purpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV)-mounted TOW platoons, the battalion antiarmor company, and the TOW light antitank (TLAT) battalion TOW companies (and references for other TLAT battalion elements). Final draft.

Scout Platoon/Sniper Team, ARTEP 7-92-MTP. Addresses regular, light, airborne, and air assault battalion scout platoons and sniper teams in all infantry units. Has been distributed.

Long Range Surveillance Unit (LRSU), ARTEP 7-93-MTP. Addresses LRSU and Long Range Surveillance Detachment for the corps and division (light and heavy). Has been distributed.

Infantry Headquarters and Headquarters (HHC) and Combat Service Support Platoons, ARTEP 7-94-MTP. Addresses the HHC and maintenance, communications, medical, and support platoons of the nonmechanized infantry battalion. Coordinating draft 31 January 1989.

THE INFANTRY AND Military Intelligence Schools have continued to develop long range surveillance units (LRSUs) for corps and division employment.

In one change, the corps LRS company intelligence officer, now a lieutenant (35D) on the table of organization and equipment (TOE), will be a senior warrant officer (350B) order of battle technician on the next TOE update.

This action represents the most effective means of satisfying the intelligence officer requirement for this position. It is based on the Military Intelligence branch's inability to support the position at the rank of captain, and it acknowledges that the experience level of a lieutenant is inadequate to the demands of the position.

In other developments, the LRS teams are scheduled to exchange their M16 rifles for M4 carbines beginning in Fiscal Year 1993 or earlier, depending upon funding. This will give the team members a shorter (10-inch) and lighter (1.5-pound) weapon. Each team will also be issued two 9mm pistols as additional weapons.

PLANS FOR A LIGHT forces vehicle (LFV), a lightweight, wheeled vehicle, have been developed by the Infantry School. The vehicle will replace selected HMMWVs in airborne, air assault, motorized, and light infantry divisions.

With a gross vehicle weight of 4,200 pounds, the LFV will be used to carry a variety of weapon systems ranging from machineguns to TOWs and laser designators.

THE M60 MACHINEGUN manual, FM 23-67, does not adequately deal with "slack" adjustment for the weapon's traversing and elevating mechanism while firing.

To reduce slack in the traversing and

elevating mechanism when firing from the tripod, a gunner should place his elbows against the inside of the two rear tripod legs and apply light pressure outward against both. With the hinged shoulder rest in the upright position, the gunner should place his shoulder against the stock, lean into the weapon, and apply light pressure to the right.

These changes will be reflected in the revised FM 23-67, scheduled for February 1990.

THE RESERVE COMPONENT Advisors at the Infantry School have new telephone numbers. The current numbers for Colonel Al Keener, the U.S. Army Reserve Advisor, and Lieutenant Colonel Dick Wright, the Army National Guard Advisor, are AUTOVON 835-7113/5741, or commercial (404) 545-7113/5741.

Their telefax telephone number is AUTOVON 835-7837, or commercial (404) 545-7837. Receipt of transmissions can be confirmed by calling AUTOVON 835-1159, or commercial (404) 545-1159.

The 10th MOUNTAIN Division is now complete with two Active Army brigades at Fort Drum, New York, plus a roundout brigade, the New York Army National Guard's 27th Infantry Brigade. For several years the division had its 1st Brigade at Fort Drum and its 2d Brigade at Fort Benning while construction was being completed at Fort Drum.

The maneuver elements of the division's two Active Army brigades are the 1st and 2d Battalions, 22d Infantry; the 1st and 2d Battalions, 87th Infantry; and the 2d and 3d Battalions, 14th Infantry. The 27th Infantry Brigade consists of the 1st Battalion, 105th Infantry and the 2d and 3d Battalions, 108th Infantry.

Units of the division have participated in deployments to Honduras, to Germany for REFORGER, and to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Chaffee.

THE U.S. ARMY INFANTRY Board has submitted the following items:

SINCGARS Manpack. The Infantry Board has tested load carrying equipment that is designed to correct problems with carrying the new SINCGARS (single channel ground and airborne radio system) and the KY-57 speech security device.

The present carrying system consists of a plastic shelf mounted on the outside of the ALICE pack frame on which the SINCGARS and KY-57 are mounted. The problem with carrying the radio this way is that the exposed cables catch on vegetation, and the control knobs accidentally move when a soldier is moving through thick vegetation. It also leaves no space to attach the ALICE pack and makes it impossible for a soldier to carry a subsistence load.

The Board tested two versions of the ALICE pack that had been modified by Natick Laboratories to solve these problems. Both versions had a new strapping system sewn inside and a slot in the storm flap to accommodate the protruding antenna. One version used the existing pocket and the other had an enlarged pocket sewn inside. The SINCGARS and the KY-57 were carried in two different component configurations—side-by-side and piggyback (with the KY-57 mounted on the back of the SINCGARS).

Twelve heavy antiarmor weapon infantrymen (MOS 11H) in the rank of private to corporal and 10 qualified parachutists served as test soldiers. They conducted five-mile road marches and negotiated the clothing and equipment test facility (CETF) obstacles while carrying combat loads, including the SINCGARS/KY-57, in modified ALICE packs.

The test soldiers were timed as they packed and unpacked the modified manpacks. The test also considered the accessibility of the radio controls and the soldiers' ability to manipulate them barehanded, wearing NBC gloves, or wearing cold weather gloves. During the airborne operations testing, parachutists performed 20 jumps from U.S. Air Force C-130 aircraft while wearing typical combat equipment, including the test item.

Several problems with the test item became apparent. After the road marches and the negotiation of the CETF, holes were discovered in both versions of the pack. The holes were caused by the normal stress and movement of the sharp corners of the radio and the KY-57 against the pack's fabric.

In addition, neither pack had a clip ring on which the handset/microphone could be hung when it was not being used. The test soldiers also commented that the free-moving antenna of the SINCGARS was a nuisance and posed a potential safety hazard.

Before the test, the project manager for SINCGARS modified six radios by adding carrying handles to them. Observers watched to find out whether the soldiers would use the handles, and they did. They would lift the modified radios by the handles and the unmodified radios by the antennas or the handsets.

Eleven of the test soldiers preferred the ALICE pack with the enlarged pocket because it provided better weight distribution and was easier to pack. Additionally, most of the test soldiers preferred the side-by-side component configuration.

The characteristics tested were mission performance, human factors, safety, reliability, and suitability for airborne operations.

The Infantry School and the Program Manager for SINCGARS will use the test results to evaluate the modifications and to determine the best configuration for the SINCGARS manpack. Natick Laboratories will then provide field units with the specifications so they can modify their existing ALICE packs to accommodate the SINCGARS radio more effectively.

Plastic Ammunition Container (PAC). The Board conducted a concept evaluation program (CEP) test to assess the operational utility of plastic ammunition containers (PAC) for 7.62mm ammunition for M60 series machineguns.

There were two test containers, PAC A and PAC B, and one control item, the standard M4 bandoleer with cardboard box liner. PAC A is a hard-plastic container that incorporates a wider shoulder strap than the M4 bandoleer, has a sliding lid, water drain holes, and a 100-round capacity. During use, the sliding lid is retracted until it hits a stop that prevents its accidental removal during rapid opening. The lid can be removed and replaced to permit the ammunition from several containers to be linked together. PAC B is a corrugated soft-plastic liner designed to replace the cardboard box liner now in use with the M4 bandoleer.

The test soldiers were 24 qualified M60 machinegunners. While carrying three each of a test or control item, they participated in a 7.5-kilometer road march, negotiated the obstacles of the clothing and equipment test facility, fired a fire and movement exercise, and fired day and night field firing exercises.

Before starting the test events, 24 of each of the test and control items to be carried during the test were soaked in water for five minutes and allowed to dry for 48 hours. This stressing procedure was repeated three times to replicate field conditions during combat operations.

The test issues included comparative human factors, audible and visual signature effects, reliability, and safety.

THE INFANTRY SCHOOL will help units procure the Army Research Institute (ARI) Multi-Purpose Arcade Combat Simulator (MACS) for marksmanship sustainment. The MACS is being offered as an interim measure until a new marksmanship sustainment device is fielded in 1990.

The Fort Benning Training Support Center (TSC) will send a complete MACS to a unit for about $1,000. The point of contact at the TSC is Mr. Corizzo, AUTOVON 835-5721.

As soon as the software conversion is complete, a second interim device will be available. It will consist of an additional circuit board to be placed into the unit's Zenith (or IBM-compatible) computer, a dry fire trigger switch, and a light pen and mount to be placed on a user's individual rifle. This device will also be made available through the Fort Benning TSC. Cost and details for acquiring it will be made available later.

The projected marksmanship sustainment device will be used to train soldiers on the M16A1 and A2, the Squad Automatic Weapon, the M60 machinegun, the MK19 40mm Grenade Machinegun, and selected antiarmor systems.

REGIMENTAL DISTINCTIVE unit insignia (DUI) are not being worn properly by some soldiers on their black pullover sweaters.

According to Army policy, a soldier who is affiliated with a regiment (but not assigned to it) may wear his regimental DUI only in cases where the unit to which he is assigned does not have its own DUI.

If a soldier is assigned to a unit that has a DUI, he may *not* wear his regimental DUI with it or instead of it.

A COMPUTER NETWORK for Reserve Component trainers has been in operation since May 1987. Sponsored by the U.S. Army Training Board, the network consists of the Reserve Component Training Net (RCTRAINNET) and the Reserve Component Training Institution Net (INSTNET). Its purpose is to provide a forum for the exchange of training ideas, concepts, and questions through computer teleconferencing. Both networks are subnets of the U.S. Army FORUM program.

RCTRAINNET is open to all RC individuals and organizations for the discussion of any topics related to training the force. The INSTNET is intended as a forum for trainers and organizations that are directly involved in providing institutional training (such as U.S. Army Reserve Forces Schools and Army National Guard Academies).

These networks are available to anyone who has access to a computer, a modem, and communications software. The users pay only the cost of local telephone calls. The Training Board picks up all other costs.

Trainers at most major Reserve Component institutions have already received RCTRAINNET/INSTNET information packets, which include local telephone access numbers and user identification numbers issued by the Training Board.

Further information for users and potential users is available from the U.S. Army Training Board, ATTN: ATAB-B, Fort Monroe, VA 23651-5320; telephone AUTOVON 680-4375/4105 or commercial (804) 727-4375/4105.

U.S. ARMY RESERVE soldiers may now apply for affiliation with combat arms regiments that are part of the U.S. Army Regimental System.

A combat arms soldier in a troop program unit (TPU) who wants to affiliate with a regiment must submit DA Form 4187 through his chain of command to his Army Reserve Command (ARCOM). Once the request is approved by the ARCOM, copies are furnished to the soldier, his unit, the regiment concerned, and the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) for inclusion in his records.

A combat arms soldier in the Active Guard Reserve (AGR), the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), or the Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) program must submit DA Form 4187 to ARPERCEN along with documentation to establish his eligibility—orders showing previous assignment to the regiment, branch or advanced course completion certificate, verification of advanced individual training completion, or orders awarding the necessary PMOS, SMOS, AMOS, or SQI.

If a soldier's application is approved at ARPERCEN, his career advisor or personnel management officer will annotate his career management information file and forward copies to the soldier, the regiment concerned, and his official military personnel file.

Distinctive unit insignia and regimental color insignia may be purchased or ordered through military clothing sales stores or directly from the regiment.
